

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 41

London: March 27, 1937

2d.

A TELEGRAM FROM SPAIN— FOR YOU

They Have Lost All: What Will You Give?

IT is 20 minutes to twelve midnight when once again the telephone bell sounds in the office of the War Resisters' International.

"Are you Enfield 0121?" "Yes." "A telegram from Spain for you." "Yes, I am ready."

"Placez mon compte courant" . . . equivalent cent
soixante livres sterling, et envoyez moi . . . equivalent
quarante livres sterling. **BROCCA.**

AS I replaced the receiver my thoughts travelled across land and sea to that sad country whence this message had come, and I could not retain a sigh of

**WHERE
SHALL
THEY GO?**



satisfaction and relief in the knowledge that we could respond immediately to that urgent message asking for £200.

Readers of PEACE NEWS who have so generously answered Dr. Sheppard's earlier appeal had helped to enable us to say "Yes," and before many hours had passed the money was on its way by air and would soon be used to bring relief to many.

"A telegram from Spain for you." Of course the words do not mean just for the War Resisters' International into whose office the message came. They mean exactly what they say—FOR YOU—you who are reading them now.

A few hours previously we had been sitting round the quiet of the fireside talking with two friends—

members of our Spanish War Resisters' League—who had just arrived in England. They told us of the work Professor Brocca is organizing and of how the gifts you have sent in are being used.

A REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

In most of the cities, towns, and villages along the eastern border of Spain the population is doubled, trebled, and in some cases even quadrupled—thousands of women and little children are hungry and homeless.

So scarce is bread that frequently there is only an allowance of two slices per person per day, and bread is normally the chief food of the Spanish people.

If you will travel with me to the little village of Bétera, near to Valencia, here you will find that a refugee settlement has been established

The Fen Floods

Why not "Call out the Troops" for Something Useful?

THE practical suggestion that the Royal Engineers might be used to help in the work of fighting the Fen floods has not been received by the Government with the enthusiasm that such a constructive proposal deserves.

When Mr. Cecil Wilson pointed out in the House of Commons, on Thursday of last week, that in other countries considerable assistance had been given by regimental engineers, whose skill had been of great value, and asked the Minister for Agriculture whether it would not be advisable to adopt similar methods here, Mr. W. S. Morrison stated that he was aware that much had been done abroad—for instance during the Mississippi floods recently.

But he said that in this country the Catchment Boards had at their disposal skilled engineers qualified to deal with their special problems. Pressed further, Mr. Morrison declared that everything that could be done in this instance was being done.

MORE HELP NEEDED

Mr. de Rothschild drew attention to the fact that the Ouse Catchment Board had broadcast an appeal for more workers with picks and shovels, and asked if in the circumstances it would not be better to bring men from Mildenhall or from the Royal Engineers' depot in the neighbourhood to help with the work.

But Mr. Morrison pleaded that there was a misunderstanding about the position at Mildenhall—from which the real danger spot was remote—and that it was difficult to get assistance from there.

Thus an excellent opportunity seems to have been lost not merely to "afford a very valuable bit of practical training," as a retired colonel put it in a letter to *The Times*, but of using the Engineers for what is surely the true purpose of a training in practical engineering—constructive and reconstructive work, such as they could do if this country disarmed.

The same letter recalled a precedent. When the bridge over the river Esk at Sleights and the water main which it carried were washed away in 1930, a section of a Field Company, R.E., from Catterick camp speedily effected repairs and saved Whitby from a serious water shortage.

LET us make the coming of peace the great desire of our hearts. Let us desire it, because desire is the creative force, the sole creative force throughout the universe.

Anatole France.

"RELIGION NO CRIME" IN SPAIN

From Our Special Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA,

March 15.

A CHARGE of being in possession of sacred relics was brought against a prisoner in Barcelona recently. The Popular Tribunal ruled that the charge did not disclose an offence, as "religion was not a crime." The case was thereupon dismissed and the accused was applauded as he left the court.

The Catalan Government announces the creation of 2,500 new posts for primary school teachers, the annual salary being 5,000 pesetas with a periodical increase. There is now some prospect of a progress in education, and the old Spanish proverb—"as hungry as a schoolmaster"—will no longer be true. 'Tis an ill war that blows nobody any good.

PEACE NEWS certainly has a marvellous power of appeal. On March 13 I received your edition of March 6 publishing my request for literature for British wounded. By the next post I received a parcel of papers from (I believe) the Vaughan College, Leicester. Thank you both.

*Russia Needs no Military
"Defence"*

by WILFRED WELLOCK

See page 6



Their only refuge—night in the "Metro."

for those who have lost home and everything they possessed.

UNDERGROUND REFUGE

Here are gathered together old people, terrified women, lonely little children, many of whom have got separated from their parents in the confusion of hurried evacuation.

Maybe a few nights previously these very children had spent the hours of darkness sleeping on the cold platform of the "metro" where they had been forced to take shelter.

Since then they have travelled miles and miles, frequently on foot and have eventually arrived in this little village where our friends receive them and where they will find food, shelter and clothing.

HOW YOU HELPED

Particulars are gathered of children wanted by their parents and of those who have been discovered separated from their relatives, and throughout the day you would hear wireless messages sent out: "Juan . . . is in . . ." "Marie . . . is safe at . . ." By this method parents and children are frequently united.

This refugee settlement is administered by a member of our own Spanish Movement. Your money has helped to establish it. I ask you to send even more to maintain it.

We leave Bétera and travel south to that stricken area between Malaga and Almeria.

The accompanying picture shows panic-stricken women and children, filled with fear and with the horrors of war still vividly before their eyes, arriving in Almeria. They know not what to do, nor where to go. They too have lost all.

Professor Brocca and those working with him have rushed to the town as speedily as possible (although greatly hindered through lack of petrol) and here again we see them providing shelter and distributing food.

A CONTINUING NEED

It is also to these refugees from Malaga that the clothing sent by members of the Peace Pledge Union has been given.

Will you send still more? The need is so vast and it will continue.

I could take you on from town to town and in each case you would find our W.R.I. representatives investigating and seeking out the most needy and dispensing the help you have placed in their hands. But these few instances will suffice to show you the great need.

Sitting round the quiet of the fire-side, our Spanish friends had been describing to us the disaster of the evacuation scenes they had witnessed—for they had also lost their all in Madrid—and these words fell from the lips of one of them:

(Continued foot of next column)

LORD PONSONBY REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS

Reflections and Comments

hatred in the common people, so intense as to make them want to kill Germans by the thousand?

EVEN the popular press expressed no such desire.

A little earlier there was a large portrait of the Kaiser in the *Daily Mail* under which was printed "A friend in need is a friend indeed" and less than a year before (October 17, 1913) the *Evening News* wrote:

"We all acknowledge the Kaiser as a very gallant gentleman whose word is better than many another's bond, a guest whom we are always glad to welcome and sorry to lose, a ruler whose ambitions for his own people are founded on as good a right as our own."

I myself entertained a number of German students at tea on the House of Commons terrace with other members present in July, 1914. A few weeks later we were killing them.

No, the hatred, intense enough to desire to kill in war-time is artificially engineered, bolstered up by lies, hypocritical and deliberately false.

It is not our lack of what is called pacifist technique or our failure to observe strictly the tenets of any religion that makes wars. I am grateful to F. W. Hipsley for enabling me to enlarge on such a conclusive illustration.

HE further objects to my saying that the Christian message against war has been preached from pulpits for close on two thousand years, and almost as if to endorse my view he gives an admirable quotation from 1 John 4, 21.

I called the message "emphatic and decided" and if to his quotation we add a number of other texts well known to us, I think it is. But surely he cannot mean that these quotations as well as prayers in which peace occurred were purposely omitted at any time in churches and chapels.

H. O. Phillipson makes the same objection and says "surely not ALL pulpits." I agree. I used the phrase figuratively and I should have said "referred to in all the services."

I remember a parson who said in his sermon that the last war was being fought on the Old Testament not the New; and another eminent preacher in a great London church who in 1915 said it was not yet the time to forgive the Germans! I wrote to him.

My point is that the message is there and has been there all the time and yet as little heed is paid to it as to many other injunctions of the founder of Christianity.

WITH regard to Buddhism, referred to by H. O. Phillipson, I quite agree that, as with Christianity and, I would add,

Confucianism and other creeds, a way of life is laid down which if followed would achieve the pacifist ideal.

But here again the failure of the adherents of these religions to conform strictly to the principles of their faith is not the cause of modern wars. Mariel Cardew advocates "group training analogous to that used by the army."

I do not think such an analogy holds out a model for us to follow. The army is recruited largely by economic pressure and misleading allurements. The training is purely physical, imposed on it from above (the right method for war preparation).

But I am in complete agreement that planning, cooperation, and more especially well-organized propaganda efforts should form the basis of our group activities.

Maurice Small rightly points to "selfishness and fear" as being among the chief causes of war; but adds "individual and collective" without considering the very substantial difference there is between the two.

COLLECTIVE, that is to say national, "selfishness and fear" is deliberately encouraged in the herd by traditional and political methods.

These can be countered and altered by a sufficiently large body of opinion being enlightened and shown the danger of this delusion and the disaster of the various political doctrines which produce collective selfishness and fear. But the elimination of selfishness and fear from the individual is quite another matter and an infinitely more difficult proposition.

Far be it from me to say that efforts should not be made by religious organizations and societies to correct this evil in our natures which takes such varied forms.

I only plead that a Union formed primarily to prevent another war should not dissipate its energies by turning its time and attention to the vast and, I fear, remote ideal of purging our individual natures of all evil tendencies; not by any means only selfishness and fear but apathy, indifference, ignorance, self-righteousness, spiritual pride and dishonesty.

I never tell my audiences to try and be good I only ask them not to be fools.

Arthur Ponsonby

PEACE PLEDGE UNION

New Signatures of the Peace Pledge—

Will Group Leaders receiving these please check that they are **LEGIBLE & COMPLETE** before passing them on to Headquarters?

(Continued from Column 1)

"TERRIBLE TO LIVE"

"One gets used to seeing thousands and thousands of dead. The sight is awful; but it passes.

"What one cannot forget is the living—their terror, their hopelessness, their utter desolation, their unspeakable need. It is so much more terrible to live than to die."

And as I replaced the receiver, with these words still ringing in my ears, across the distance came the call—"A message from Spain for you."

I feel the responsibility of passing on that message to every reader of PEACE NEWS and to every member of our movement in this country. I leave it with you.

How will you enable us to answer when the next call comes through?

Will you send your gift today, addressed: Canon "Dick" Sheppard, PEACE PLEDGE UNION, 96 Regent Street, London W.1, and marked "Spanish Relief Fund." I feel sure you will respond as generously to this appeal as you did to that of Dr. Sheppard.

H. O. Phillipson

Hon. Secretary, War Resisters' International.

(Gifts of clothing should be addressed to Messrs. Davies, Turner & Co. Ltd., Carrier House, 4 Lower Belgrave Street, London, S.W.1, marked "P.P.U. for Spain," and bearing the name and address of the sender.)

Building Amid Destruction of the Spanish War

WHILE OTHERS SACRIFICE ALL TO PREPARING FOR DEATH

From Our Special Correspondent

CASTELLON-DE-LA-PLANA,
March 12.

THE City Council of Barcelona is planning the immediate construction of numerous public works in spite of the war, or perhaps on account of it and of the pressing needs of hordes of refugees.

Among these works are over a hundred new schools, accommodating some 55,000 children, as well as the conversion of churches and convents to this purpose. Three new hospitals are being built for consumptives, incurables, and mental deficient, and the only slum quarter of the city, near the harbour, is being cleared to provide children's playgrounds and public parks.

SHORTAGE PROBLEMS

WHILE, even in the midst of a war, Spain is thus devoting some energy to constructive work, it seems that Britain, even when not involved in war, must go "all out" to direct its whole effort toward preparing for war.

This has just been well illustrated by Sir Thomas Inskip, Minister for Coordination of Defence, who (according to *The Times*), said at Newcastle recently that

"the shortage of steel was in itself a problem which was already causing anxiety. He hoped the community might be prepared to forego the pleasure of seeing new buildings erected or old buildings reconstructed in order that the Government might not be handicapped in the completion of its rearmament programme."

RISING PRICES

This dedication of the national life to the god of war is also making itself felt through rising prices.

Glycerine, for example, which was obtainable at £40 per ton at the beginning of last year is now about £100 per ton, and an extreme shortage recently reported was said to be due to the European arms race. Besides being used in toilet preparations and medicines, glycerine is employed in large quantities for the manufacture of explosives.

QUESTIONS OF PRESTIGE

A note referring to the "high colonizing mission of Italy" appeared in the official bulletin of the *Accione Cattolica*, an Italian militant Catholic organization.

In an Italian newspaper, *L'Accione Coloniale*, the fascist Minister of State, Maurizio Rava (former Governor of Somaliland), fearing unions between Italians and native women in Abyssinia, declares that "it will be necessary to regulate in all centres of the Italian African colonies a sufficiently large and often renewed supply of white women, of another quality than honest women. They must be white women but not Italian women—Italian women of that class should never be allowed to pass the frontiers of our Empire; it is an elementary question of prestige in relation to the natives."

PEN FRIENDS FOR CHILDREN

A World-Wide Scheme

From a Correspondent

ABOUT two years ago, some children in New Zealand wrote to the office of the "Caravan," the youth section of the New History Society, which, completely absorbed in its own work, wondered what could best be done for the friendly New Zealand children.

Presently the letters, some thirty in all, were sent to school teachers in Brooklyn with the suggestion that the Brooklyn children might correspond with the New Zealand children.

Thus "The Children's Caravan," an international correspondence club, now operating in many different countries in every continent, was born. Up till now about fifty "chapters" or groups, are corresponding with one another, and hundreds of children, unable to join a "chapter" are participating in the scheme individually.

"MY UNKNOWN FRIEND"

The groups' packages of letters, addressed to "My unknown friend" care of the Caravan, are forwarded to appropriate correspondents. The age of the sender is usually mentioned on the envelope, and often the nationality of the desired friend. After making contact the children correspond directly with one another.

Although it is not possible to state just how many English children are members of the "Children's Caravan" we know that the number is considerable. There must be very many young people who want to have a pen pal but who do not know just how to secure one.

So if any school teacher, Scout or Guide Leader or person working with young people should be able to make the "Caravan" known to them—well, to say the least, I think a heap of friendship would result.

The progress of the "Children's Caravan" was slow at first, but, like an avalanche of stones, it gathers speed and size, attracting more attention. Its remarkable progress, with the help of all its friends the whole world over will, I hope, be trebled within the next twelve months.

A CHANCE FOR REAL SERVICE



THIS picture shows one of the many "jobs of work" undertaken in various parts of the world by the International Voluntary Service for Peace—the organization started by Pierre Cérésolle to provide an alternative to military service in conscriptionist countries.

At the same time as service in the armed forces is being lauded as the highest form of duty to the State, opportunities for real service have been presenting themselves. The

gigantic floods in the United States have been followed by the disaster in our own Fen country.

In this latest instance volunteers had to be hastily organized, and, despite herculean labours, lost their battle with the forces of nature. Would not the "defence" forces of a really civilized country be trained and capable of dealing with these natural disasters, instead of for the murder of fellow human beings?

Friendship Overcame Artificial Enmity

LORD PONSONBY'S recent "reflections" on the causes of war (published in *PEACE NEWS* on March 6) have reminded a correspondent who was born in the Italian-speaking Austrian Tyrol of an experience she had during the War.

"I had been brought up from early childhood to hate the German

Austrians," writes our correspondent.

"They were our enemies and our oppressors. A few months before Italy joined the Allies and made war on Austria I went to Innsbruck in the German-speaking Tyrol to sit for an examination. I was staying at a hostel, but from my old school I had received the address of the parents of a girl who was at the time staying at the school.

"I was nineteen, a village girl, for the first time alone in a strange city. I felt homesick and lonely, and I went to visit these people. They gave me a warm welcome, they treated me like a daughter, and took away my sense of loneliness.

"But I felt uneasy and asked myself: 'Are these my enemies? Are these the people I have to hate, whose destruction and ruin I have to wish for?'

"If anybody at that moment had said to me: 'It is your duty to love them, as you love your own people,' I should have welcomed that person as a saviour. And yet somebody had said those words nearly 2,000 years before!"

FOUNDATION OF PEACE

A document, placed in the corner stone of the new Catholic cathedral in the city of Luxemburg, which will be dedicated in May, declared that the foundation stone was laid at a moment "when this country of Luxemburg rises like an island of peace and prosperity from the midst of turbulent times."

Although these words may sound proud, they nevertheless describe quite correctly the unique position of the tiny Grand Duchy which has neither war debts to pay for the last war nor exorbitant taxes for armaments in foolish preparation for the next one.—Nofrontier News Service.

Ask your Newsagent for
PEACE NEWS
Weekly

HEADQUARTERS' NOTES AND COMMENTS

By MAX PLOWMAN

96 Regent Street,
London, W.1.

A POLICEMAN called here today! No, not to sign a peace pledge—though, as a preserver of the peace, I hope he felt at home—but to tell us our coronation route card must be blue: not quite a true blue, and (disappointingly) not our own olive green.

But the man in blue came as a reminder that now is the appointed time to make pacifist plans for devising the best way to celebrate the coronation. When everybody is in the streets there is certainly work for peace to be done. Therefore I commend to all groups of pacifists the idea of planning now how they can best combine their loyal duty with the pleasure of intensive peace propaganda.

We might make the slogan of the day "Give peace in our time, O Lord!" Or what do you say to Nurse Cavell's immortal words—perhaps the most truly patriotic ever spoken—"Patriotism is not enough"? That motto, in heavy black lettering, on a placard with a red, white and blue border, might be very effective and one to which no one could take exception. Anyway, let us have your bright ideas for brightening the day with something less hideous and dismal than fixed bayonets. And let groups vie with each other in the effectiveness of their local displays. I don't believe wild horses could stop Manchester from showing us how it should be done! And "what Manchester says today . . ."

How many people could give an unbiased historical account of the rise of fascism in Italy and Germany? Mighty few of my acquaintance! So I have recently persuaded an historian of considerable repute to give us this chapter in about five thousand words. Would anyone who values truth like to pay for the cost of its printing? Five fivers would do it!

EVIDENTLY . . .

"RECENTLY the Archbishop of York made the following remark at a Church Assembly: 'It can be a Christian duty to kill.'"

"Evidently the Archbishop has not seen anything of war, for, if he had he would not say that under any conceivable circumstances it is a Christian duty to slaughter, to maim, to mutilate, to cause unspeakable physical and mental torture to millions of human beings.

"Or is it a Christian duty to kill? We Buddhists sometimes wonder.

"Buddhism has never approved the use of force. No blood has ever been shed in the cause of Buddhism. Study the records of Western nations and the records of the Eastern nations. What a contrast you will find.

"Obviously something is wrong. May we not say that the blame must be laid at the door of their religion?"
—The Wheel.

GROUP NOTES

By JOHN BARCLAY

SOUTH WALES has become a centre round which our activities must develop.

I feel that here we have pacifism at its best, because it is rooted in economic depression.

In other words, if a man who is suffering from the effects of seven years' unemployment can face an offer of work in a munition factory by a blunt refusal, then we are in touch with the greatness of human nature which I believe exists in all, and on which our future depends.

The Rhondda Valley may yet become the keystone of our movement. We now have 23 groups in South Wales and Monmouthshire. I hope to put a full list of group leaders in this area in a special South Wales "feature" after Easter.

"BATTLE" OF HASTINGS

Meanwhile, reports are reaching me from all over the country on group activity. Last week I had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Wray of Hastings. They have a P.P.U. group and a peace group, which between them cover a very large part of Hastings and district. Dr. Shepard spoke at a meeting there two weeks ago to a packed and enthusiastic audience. I hope all local pacifists will make it their business to get in touch with Mr. Wray, Tinkers Dell, Telham, Battle, Sussex.

Leyton has made plans for a mass canvass during the early Spring, to be followed up by an open-air demonstration in Epping Forest in June. It could easily be turned into a great East London rally, and only needs the active cooperation of groups. Please write, offering to help, to Mr. R. G. Avery, 46 Canterbury Road, E.10.

THANKS FOR THE MAP

The Yiewsley Men's Fellowship was addressed on March 8 by Mr. H. A. Southwell. The meeting was attended by many of our groups in the West Drayton area, and was a great success. A discussion took place on the Archbishop's manifesto to Christians.

I have had a number of letters, telling me how much the map published two or three weeks ago helped to visualize the whole movement. I think we might follow this up with diagrams and statistics illustrating other phases of our growth.

A new group has been formed at Whitehaven in Cumberland and is being sponsored by the Workington and Carlisle members. This sort of cooperation of existing bodies is tremendously helpful and should be copied by others. After all, moral support is best given by personal contact.

HONESTY

One is or is not a pacifist! One affirms a thing or denies it! If one is opposed to war he puts every obstacle in its way and destroys everything that contributes to it. And if a man in military service believes that peace is best, let him abandon his career or manage to change the army into something useful for the greatness of his country. And if a priest praises war let him become a sanguinary soldier and go against the best sentiments and hope of the world. But, if you please, let there not be so many absurdities and contradictions.
—Señor J. Vargas Diez Canseco.

The Notice Board

Following an address by Harold I. Clipstone of Stafford at Leek on March 12, a group was formed and it was decided to hold weekly meetings in Friends' Meeting House.

Hampstead group have formed a local dramatic society. Any members with acting ability wishing to join, please communicate with H. Allan Smith, 6 Cavendish Road, London, N.W.6.

Group formed at Southall at meeting addressed by David Spreckley, March 17, Secretary Mrs. Blowers, group leader, Mr. Huckle, 123 Hambrough Road, Southall, Middlesex.

See also John Barclay's Group Notes.

A CLERGYMAN'S APOLOGY

From Our Own Correspondents

An air raid "precautions" recruiting meeting at St. Philip's Hall, Norbury, gave the local group a chance to try out a campaign of questions.

The chairman's table was almost smothered with questions. The St. John Ambulance men on the platform were quite inadequately equipped for answering them.

The meeting had a significant climax.

The clergyman who had lent the hall for the demonstration and who obviously considered air raid "precautions" necessary almost apologized for his position with these words:

"I am not here to preach you a sermon but there is only one way to stop war. It is Christ's way and you all know it."

There was a roar of "Yes, pacifism!" from all parts of the hall.

A motion declaring "that the pacifist faith, which includes the refusal to support or sanction war, provides the only basis for world peace" was carried at a debate between the Peace Pledge Union and the Youth Group of the League of Nations Union at Norwich last week.

Considerable satisfaction was felt by the P.P.U. at the result, especially as the debate took place at the local headquarters of the L.N.U.

The necessity for women to do something to dispel apathy and to repudiate the idea that war was inevitable, was the note loudly struck by both speakers during a discussion between Miss Thorneycroft (P.P.U.) and Mrs. Corbett Fisher (L.N.U.) on "Can women prevent war?" at Carshalton last week.

A successful meeting of P.P.U. signatories, at which David Spreckley was the speaker, was held at Kidderminster last week.

"War under any circumstances is the utter negation of the spirit and teachings of Jesus Christ," says a resolution denouncing war and refusing to fight under any circumstances recently adopted by the Auckland (New Zealand) Methodist Young Men's Bible Class Union.

Ideas for Action

By DAVID SPRECKLEY

HERE are some of the 25 suggestions for group and individual activities which, as I mentioned last week, will appear in this column for the next few weeks.

My first suggestion is a dull matter of routine, I am afraid. Discipline—mother of routine—is essential to our movement, but it must be self-discipline, powerful and invigorating—the discipline that builds one's character instead of destroying it.

Suggestion 1. That every team (or group if not yet divided into teams) should meet once a week and that everyone should attend, whatever the previous engagement or the weather. The meeting need only be short.

Well-organized activity needs frequent planning and consolidation. And do not drag the meeting out, drowsing in comfortable chairs. Try sitting on hard seats and not turning on the gas fire, and be concise and to the point in discussion. Plan future action and then go out and do it.

Suggestion 2. Immediately after the first meeting those present should canvass personally the absentees on the list. Few of us realize the full implications of constructive pacifism when we first sign—I certainly didn't. If it is properly explained to the absentee, he will be along to the next meeting.

New members may need a few weeks' attendance at these meetings before they feel ready to participate in active work.

Suggestion 3. We won't spill our blood in destroying life, but we can spill it in saving life. There are blood transfusion rosters at most hospitals. Think this one over and I will enlarge on it next week.

So much for the first instalment—and I want suggestions, please, to add to my list, addressed to me at 96 Regent Street.

I may be just a "headstrong youth"—but it is the small boys who beat the drums and play the bugles when the battle commences, so I have taken it upon myself to sound—A CALL TO ACTION!

OF COURSE

"Why does the teaching profession abhor war? Because war destroys what educators build. War destroys the young people we labour to train for competency and fruitful living. War distorts the truth and disseminates lies.

"War turns our schools and colleges into recruiting stations and our teachers and professors into propagandists of hate. War uses our researches for developing new and so-called "advanced ways" of killing people. War arouses in man the destructive impulses which we try to bring under control.

"War is followed by economic chaos, poverty, and moral exhaustion. Of course, educators must oppose war."

By J. W. Studebaker in *School Life* (U.S.A.)

N.B. Please send your group news to John Barclay at the Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

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PACIFIST CLERGY
PROTEST

Modern War Not
Christian

THE resolution to be moved at the meeting of pacifist clergy and laity of the Church of England, to protest against the Church Assembly's decisions on war, which, as announced in last week's PEACE NEWS, will be held in London on April 5, reads as follows:—

"That this meeting of clergy and laity of the Church of England declares its passionate conviction that Jesus Christ would refuse in any cause whatsoever to employ methods of modern war.

"It denies that it could ever be the duty of disciples of Christ to use methods their Master would not sanction, and therefore deplores the attempts made at the Church Assembly to reconcile the teaching of Christ with the practice of war, and urges all members of the Church to maintain that war is essentially evil, and, as such, incompatible with advancing the kingship of Christ."

Here's The Answer

Argument. Could not economic sanctions be construed as a form of non-violent resistance to aggression?

THE question involves a confusion between a simple act of non-cooperation with a wrong-doer in his wrong and the complex international machinery properly known as economic sanctions.

There is no analogy between the two. The one needs no justification but is an obvious duty. But what should we think of a man who in various ways hindered another from acquiring the necessities of life and then, when that goaded the latter to steal, retaliated by starving, not the thief, but his wife and children? And what if the former was also a thief but recently converted to "righteousness?" That may be an oversimplification, but it is in essence the situation as between the "aggressive" and the "righteous" nations. It is very much a question of the mote and the beam.

Moreover, the main object of the sincere sanctionist (i.e. as opposed to the advocate of mere punishment) is to persuade the "aggressor" to try other methods. That is the very last result of anything savouring, not to the sanctionist but to the aggressor, of hypocrisy on the part of those administering the "corrective."

A dividend of ten percent on its ordinary capital has been declared by Vickers, the leading armament firm. A year ago, besides paying a dividend of eight percent, this company gave a bonus of fifty percent to its shareholders. This was done by writing up the value of the ordinary shares from 6s. 8d. to 10s. each.

IT SEEMS TO ME

by Ampersand

What is the Answer?

A CORRESPONDENT in the *Church Times* offers a challenge to Great Britain's desire for peace.

On Christian principles, he suggests, "that £1,500,000,000 should be handed over to the Lazarus nations instead of being spent for defending the possessions of Dives."

He advises the British pacifist movement to start such a fund on a voluntary basis, and pay the proceeds to the League of Nations for the assistance of the poorer peoples.

By its success or failure, he says, "we should know where we stood when we spoke of 'making sacrifices for peace.'"

Well, there's the challenge. Would such an appeal succeed or fail?

I suppose one must say it would fail, fail at any rate in its full intention. Subscriptions somehow never do reach the amounts that have much meaning among the astronomical figures of national finance.

And if it were tried and did fail, would the real moral be that suggested by the *Church Times* correspondent: that people are not genuinely prepared to make sacrifices for peace?

"One Shall Be Taken . . ."

IT seems to be a question well worth considering and I'd be interested to know what most pacifists would think. It raises all sorts of propaganda problems.

Why does one give a penny to one street musician rather than another:

to one hospital rather than another? I ought to have been comforted. But The correspondent's answer is altogether too simple.

I think the appeal would fail because it would be "just another demand for money," like so many others that have come before.

It would fail to catch people's imaginations, and, in propagandist terms, to ask people to act without their imaginations being caught is to ask them to act without even temporary conviction that their action will be useful.

I don't believe that if people believed such a fund would end war they would fail to respond. The whole thing rests on the "if."

There must be greatness in the making of an appeal as well as in the response to it. All this, of course, applies just as well to the Peace Pledge campaign itself.

Shifting Sands

SIR SAMUEL HOARE has been very cheerful lately about the invulnerability of our battleships and our ability to defend our trade routes.

A friend who knows Suez well told me the other day that the canal banks are not made up with concrete but so loose that they don't allow pedestrians to walk near them in case they knock sand down into the channel.

I thought of what one or two stray bombs would do.

If they can protect the Suez Canal, I thought, they can protect anything.

Mussolini in Libya?

"THE region of which I speak is a dreary region in Libya, by the borders of the river Zaïre. And there is no quiet there nor silence. . .

"It was night, and the rain fell; and falling it was rain, but, having fallen, it was blood. . . And mine eyes fell upon a huge grey rock which stood by the shore of the river, and was lighted by the light of the moon.

"Upon the front were characters engraven in the stone—and the characters were DESOLATION. And I looked upwards, and there stood a man upon the summit of the rock. And the man was tall and stately in form, and was wrapped up from his shoulders to his feet in the toga of old Rome.

"And I grew angry and cursed, with the curse of silence, the river, and the lilies, and the wind and the forest, and the thunders, and the sighs of the water-lilies. And they became accursed and were still. . .

"And mine eyes fell upon the countenance of the man, and his countenance was wan with terror. And, hurriedly he raised his head from his hands and listened.

"But there was no voice throughout the vast illimitable desert, and the characters on the rock were SILENCE. And the man shuddered, and turned his head away, and fled afar off, in haste, so that I beheld him no more."—from *Silence: A Fable*, by Edgar Allan Poe.

Free Churches and
Preparation
for War

THE view that the National Free Church Council should pledge itself to a thorough-going opposition to the Government's rearmament programme and to securing from the Government a declaration that it would take no part in war or any preparation for war, was expressed by the Rev. T. W. Bevan at the assembly of the Council at Leicester last week.

It was moved as an amendment to a resolution deploring the dangerous state of Europe and calling upon the churches of the world to resist excessive nationalism, to urge the establishment of a world court of equity, and to press for total abolition of aerial warfare and the internationalization of air forces to be used only for the purposes of peace. The amendment was lost, the motion carried.

A second resolution declaring that the assembly would never again acquiesce in war for any reason was also defeated.

Archbishop on Some
Colonial Problems

A SUGGESTION that the only fair solution of the colonial question might be for all nations to abandon imperial rights and to entrust the administration of backward areas to an international service responsible to an international authority was made by the Archbishop of York in an address at St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, E.C., on Thursday of last week.

Our concern must be justice for all rather than the rights of actual possession, he said, and added that Christianity supplied the devotion and the energy by which we might take the next step forward.

The Archbishop repeated his argument that force used solely for the maintenance of law became an instrument of righteousness. He believed the next stage in international civilization was to establish international law with international authority to frame and apply it, and where necessary, to enforce it.

WOULD YOU
BELIEVE IT?

In 1917, we were within three weeks of starvation.

Major Lloyd George.

There is too much open diplomacy.

Mr. Anthony Eden.

One thing we had gained out of the War was added security.

Mr. L. S. Amery, M.P.

Armies are temples of ancestor worship.

Military Correspondent of
The Times.

Even mustard gas which comes in direct contact with the body will lose its virulence if the victim at once takes a bath and washes it off.

Mr. Beverley Baxter, M.P.

I am beginning to think it possible that the general staffs of Europe may be our most effective workers for peace.

"Candidus" of the *Daily Sketch*.

FILL IN THE FORM
ON PAGE 12

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Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but
providing news, information and an open forum
Serving all who are working for Peace

March 27, 1937

FALSE UNITY

NOT the least important of the requirements placed upon any nation which engages in a war of the modern totalitarian variety is a public opinion which, if not enthusiastically in favour of the struggle, feels at least that no other way could, in the circumstances, have been taken.

Despite the fact that British "rearmament" is, according to *The Times*, "for the purpose of changing an uneasy into a firmly established peace," no effort is being spared by that newspaper, as by the Government itself, to demonstrate that the entire nation is in agreement with the policy which is at present being pursued. In other words, and apart from the possibility that such protestations of unity are made with an eye to the reactions they evoke in other countries, there is a very real attempt in progress to create a public opinion whose temper, in the event of Great Britain's becoming involved in hostilities, would be as described above.

In a leading article summing up the parliamentary discussions on the "defence" Estimates, *The Times* last week adduced evidence to show that the necessary unity already exists, pointing out the fact that, "taken as a whole, not a single speech has been made by any responsible member in Opposition which has challenged the present necessity for rearmament on a very large scale." Any doubts as to the Government's faith in the official policy of collective "security" were dismissed by the assertion that "neither for immediate nor for ultimate practical purposes does it matter very much whether the Opposition genuinely suspects the Government's motives."

All this entirely ignores the protests both of those who see in the more-arms policy an expression of a fundamentally wrong outlook, and of those who take the left-wing socialist stand of opposition to "rearmament." To this extent, therefore, all references to national unity are completely false, and the increasing frequency of their utterance should spur pacifists to awaken public opinion to the fact that peace can only be attained through the adoption of a policy which removes the roots of war and sows the seeds of peace.

Pacifists know well enough the truth of this. It is vital that they should convince others of it too, before monotonous declarations of national unity for "rearmament" dull public awareness of any practical alternative policy.

DO THE FACTS DISPROVE THE PACIFIST CASE?—4

RUSSIA needs no

ALMOST invariably, after addressing a pacifist meeting, one is questioned about Russia: Can it be denied that if Soviet Russia had not been strongly armed she would have been conquered by fascist Powers and her régime overthrown?

On this issue two things should be said:

1. A regime which establishes itself by violence and confiscates all wealth must expect to be attacked by all the parties that have suffered by its methods.

2. It may be possible, when a revolution has been consolidated, as in Russia, to adopt a pacifist policy.

The Russian Revolutions of 1917 were carried through by violence and followed by wholesale confiscation, although comparatively little blood was shed. Much more blood flowed later, when the dispossessed Russian Whites, aided by Powers whose nationals had also been dispossessed of their Russian properties, harassed and devastated the country during several years, causing untold suffering and much loss of life, in addition to holding up the work of national reconstruction.

Then, in order to maintain the revolutionary conquest, a ruthless dictatorship was set up, the toll of whose victims will probably never be made known. The cost of twenty years of dictatorial rule in life, in mental agony, in intellectual servitude is beyond computation, and even today the death roll of the "traitors to the Constitution" is incomplete, as batch after batch, including many of the founders of the Soviet régime, is still being called upon to face the firing squad, victims of the very machine they helped to set up. Finally, colossal armaments are deemed to be necessary to maintain the fruits of revolution.

I am not here arguing as to whether the gains from the Revolution have been worth the price paid, but wondering whether, profiting by Russia's experience, we cannot find a better way to a rational social order than that of terror and bloodshed, and also whether present day Russia, threatened as she is by fascist Germany and Japan, together with their satellites, is not presented with a pacifist alternative to a military policy of defence.

It is with the latter issue that we are specially concerned in this article.

★ ★

I HAVE always held the view that, given an educated democracy, militarism would be necessary to enforce the perpetuation of a capitalist or class-based society. Hence I am convinced that Hitler, Mussolini, or any other fascist dictator will require powerful military establishments and well-organized police and spy systems in order to maintain their rule.

MILITARY "DEFENCE"

says WILFRED WELLOCK

But that necessity reveals their weakness, and the danger that would beset them were they to make war on States which are endeavouring to abolish class domination, to democratize social benefits and eventually to extend democratic rule to every department of national life.

Unfortunately the significance of that position has not been grasped by the Left—by Soviet Russia, for instance. Now Russia, by reason of her proved ability to spread the economic benefits of her State-organized production to the very extremities of the nation, has reduced the capitalist elements within her borders to a negligible quantity, and so has no need to continue her dictatorship, or a vast military organization in order to defend her régime.

In other words, Russia's present condition, her great social and political achievements, to which all who are sincerely concerned with the problem of human advancement must pay tribute, is surely her chief security, and the rock against which every fascist dictator who seeks to overthrow the Soviet régime will come to grief.

Consider, for example the state of Germany today: her lowering standard of living, her unbearable repressions which multiply as revolt threatens to spread or is feared, her growing dependence upon militarism, police, and spies as her economic condition worsens. These conditions are crushing the very heart out of her people, who, let it be remembered, passionately love freedom, discussion and uncurbed self-expression.

There must be millions of Germans today—radicals, Christians, socialists, communists, cooperators, pacifists, &c., who are enduring unspeakable agony and awaiting a suitable opportunity to get rid of their oppression.

Does anyone imagine that these millions will participate in an attempt to overthrow the Soviet régime? If ever Hitler enters upon such an enterprise these very considerable forces—possibly a majority of the nation—would constitute an instrument of disintegration which would lead to his undoing.

★ ★

THUS Russia possesses enormous advantages over Germany, should she be attacked by the latter. These advantages would be still greater were she to do what now seems to many of us to be possible, namely, make democracy a reality by removing the rigours of her dictatorship, disarm, and rely upon her achievements for her security.

If it is true, as I maintain, that Soviet Russia possesses more security in her social and economic achievements than does Germany in her powerful military machine, what would have been the position had she devoted the colossal sums she has latterly spent on armaments to social amenities, to the raising still further of the standard of living of her people? The lot of the latter would today be the envy of the whole world.

Moreover, such a manifestation of faith in achievement, unsupported by arms, would have given to world opinion the biggest shock it has ever had, and to Russia a greater security than any country has ever possessed. There is not a rank and file army in the whole world that could have been depended upon to attack her.

★ ★

BUT even that is not all. Had Russia taken that course she would have been so secure internally as to be able to permit complete political freedom and thus to avoid such lamentable exhibitions of betrayal and sabotage as the recent famous trials have provided, while this action would have taken the wind completely out of the sails of every fascist dictator.

At the same time she would have trained her people in the technique of pacifist resistance to aggression should any dictator have imagined that an unarmed Russia would be easy prey.

That technique would have included reliance on two things in particular—the folding of arms, and fraternization.

An invading army being greeted with kindness and hospitality, and a calm refusal to be anyone's slaves, would be wholly unable to continue shooting down their hosts in cold blood.

Neither would they be able to imprison them. If they attempted to occupy the country, their own rank and file (who would have to do the job) witnessing the kindness of the people and the high standard of their life, would revolt and turn against their oppressors. This revolt would be supported by growing revolt at home, for reasons above stated.

I therefore claim that Soviet Russia is not dependent upon militarism for her defence, and would be in a securer position today, while her people would be happier, had she adopted a pacifist policy. She would have been the beacon toward which humanity entire would have turned for hope, guidance, and inspiration. Is it still beyond hope that she will take that course?

SCOUT MOVEMENT NOT TO TOLERATE PACIFISM

Cooperation in Air Raid "Precautions"

Special to PEACE NEWS

AN offer to the Home Office, by Boy Scout Headquarters, of the services of members of the Scout Movement in connexion with local authorities' schemes of air raid "precautions" is giving rise to some anxiety in the minds of many pacifist members of the movement.

Recent press and broadcast announcements lead one to suppose that an arrangement has been made by Boy Scout Headquarters with the Government. This, however, has been done without consulting the churches (which control many Scout groups), the parents, or members of the movement.

WHILE it is acknowledged that the intention—service to others—is a good one, pacifist Scouts and Rovers quite realize that preparation and training for this purpose in peace time is a disservice to the rest of the world community because it plants fear, hatred, and suspicion in minds of boys at an impressionable age, and so builds up the very causes of war. Scouts would, of course, do all in their power to alleviate suffering in the event of war.

It is generally recognized that air "precautions" are an essential part of the country's preparation for war, and the Scout movement is therefore becoming part of the military machine, contrary to its profession that it is non-military.

Bound up with this question is a recent statement of policy by Lord Somers, Deputy Chief Scout, to the effect that pacifism should not be tolerated in the movement.

PACIFIST ISSUE

In view of the fact that some churches have officially adopted pacifism, and many others recognize its validity, this means that they have now working in their midst an organization which will "not tolerate" Christianity as expounded by many of their ministers and members.

Attempts are being made to silence any criticism of this policy, and the Editor of the *Scouter* has declined to publish a reply to Lord Somers in which a plea was made for the Scout and Guide Movements to declare boldly to the world "that their ideals of peace and service meant that these movements could not participate in actual war or in its preparations."

Pacifists within the movement are thus insisting that the ideal of a world-wide brotherhood, whose first duty is to God, shall not become meaningless. The conflict, partly between youth and age, which is going on within the churches, may soon rack the world's greatest youth movement unless a more tolerant spirit soon prevails.



STOP, LOOK, AND LEARN

From Our Own Correspondent

THE Derby Peace Shop closed on Tuesday after seven weeks. Through it many have learnt of the existence of the P.P.U. and local membership numbers have been considerably increased. The lending library was widely used, and as there are obviously many people interested in pacifist thought and ready to read pacifist literature, it may possibly be continued as a travelling library.

The window, which was dressed weekly, was a great attraction. One felt, however, that even interested people were sometimes diffident about entering. Perhaps it should not have been called a "shop." The word suggests an obligation to buy.

The local group feels that the experiment has been well worth while and should be repeated in Derby and elsewhere.

Arms and The Peace Movement

NATIONAL CONGRESS PLANS

"REARMAMENT and its implications" and "constructive Peace action" are the two issues which will be discussed at the National Peace Congress which will be held under the auspices of the National Peace Council from May 28 to May 31 at Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1.

A new feature of this year's Congress will be the setting up of commissions to cover the following headings:— education, trade unions, religious organizations, youth organizations, co-operative organizations, science and medicine, publicity, and local activities.

In addition to the discussion sections of the Congress, the programme will include a mass demonstration in Trafalgar Square on Sunday, May 30, and on the same date a united service in St. Martin-in-the-Fields, when an address will be given by the Bishop of Birmingham, this year's President of the National Peace Council.

National and local organizations are entitled to appoint six and two delegates respectively. Application forms may be obtained from the National Peace Council, 39 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

Air Raid "Precautions"

"TELL US THE TRUTH" —Scientist's Plea To Government

By a PEACE NEWS Reporter

A CALL to the Government to publish facts with regard to the effectiveness of its proposed air raid "precautions" was made by Professor J. B. S. Haldane at a conference of civil servants and other public employees held in Essex Hall, London, on Thursday of last week.

"There is no way whatever of finding out the facts without direct experiment," he declared.

Both Professor Haldane and Dr. J. R. Marrack, another speaker at the conference, considered a respirator to be of more importance than a so-called gas-proof room, although the latter would be of some use, and they agreed that the greatest problem was that of providing some protection for children who were too young to wear respirators.

Professor Haldane said the Government had been faced with a choice between what he called "passive defence" measures and offensive weapons, and had chosen the latter.

The objection usually made to measures giving some measure of real defence against air attack was that they would cost huge sums of money. Nevertheless, the Government had decided on equally large amounts on offensive weapons.

TRAIL OF DEATH IN SPAIN

THE appalling total of 200,000 people killed in the war in Spain was given in the *Manchester Guardian* last week as representing a "rough average of estimates made by objective observers with some opportunity of obtaining general information."

What will probably surprise most readers is the fact that if the dead are divided into the three categories of those killed in action, those killed in air raids, and those executed, by far the largest number is to be found in the last category.

There are reported to have been at least 10,000 executions in Madrid alone.

INTERVENTION

Meanwhile, over eight months after the first rising against the Government, diplomats are still endeavouring to check open intervention by foreign Powers. It remains to be seen whether the plans that have been drawn up for the supervision of frontiers will have the desired effect.

Already the agreement to ban "volunteers" appears to have been violated by the Italian Government—although it is suggested that Italian troops recently landed in Spain may have been shipped from Africa and that this would not be a breach of the agreement.

A summary of objections which have been made to the present supervision scheme is given in a memorandum published by the Women's Peace Crusade, 55 Gower Street, London, W.C.1, which gives a résumé of the situation in Spain in March.

A warning was uttered against the great danger of war and popular pressure on governments as a means of preventing war was advocated at a recent meeting of the Johannesburg branch of the International Peace Campaign Committee, which represents twenty-one organizations, at Durban.

DO WE WANT BROADCAST SHAKESPEARE?

asks R. M. HOLBROW

A WELL-KNOWN broadcaster has confessed that he reads *Hamlet* right through once a fortnight and derives something fresh from each reading. A similar admission as regards the plays generally, when produced in the theatre, was made by a professor of literature in the recent series of talks on Shakespeare.

Julius Caesar is one of the best known of the tragedies, one which I suppose most of us "did" very thoroughly at school, but I am looking forward to Sunday's broadcast in the certainty of making some new discovery.

VIEWS AND PRINCIPLES

It was, of course, Mark Antony's soliloquy over Caesar's murdered body that provided Beverley Nichols with the title for his excursion into a kind of pacifism, and for the counterblast by Yeats Brown.

Incidentally, I note that in an interview published in *World's Press News*, Nichols is reported as justifying his present support of rearmament with the words: "A journalist who doesn't change his views with a change of circumstances is untrue to himself." Circumstances are always changing. So, apparently are views. What of principles?

There is not much adaptability to circumstance in those words of Cassius: "Nor stony tower, nor walls of beaten brass, Nor airless dungeon, nor strong links of iron, Can be retentive to the strength of spirit."

These lines are worthy of something better than a glorification of suicide.

Plan for Discussion—3

VIOLENCE AND COERCION

ARE there any circumstances in which I would fight? This is the third subject in the discussion programme for study groups which appeared in PEACE NEWS a fortnight ago, and it is suggested that the following points need consideration under this heading:—

1. Is pacifism always applicable, or do situations arise where the use of force is not only inevitable, but is also right and just—for example, in Spain?
2. Would you take up arms in
 - (a) A national war?
 - (b) A civil war?
 - (c) Support of an international police force?
3. Would you, in the event of war, accept alternative service such as ambulance work, mine-sweeping, industrial, or agricultural work?
4. Is it one's duty to relieve suffering even if by one's action one is releasing or healing others to fight?
5. As a citizen and a member of a State, is one free to enjoy all the advantages of an ordered community and to contract out of the disadvan-

though self-destruction was not, of course, dishonourable to those Romans of the pre-Christian era.

PACIFISM IN ACTION

Mark Antony, the great orator of this play, and the great lover of *Antony and Cleopatra*, was no pacifist. Yet in this latter tragedy, which was broadcast last month, he makes use of pacifist technique.

I refer to his treatment of Enobarbus, the warrior friend who deserts his leader to join the camp of Octavius Caesar.

"Go, send his treasure after . . . detain no jot . . . write to him gentle adieus and greetings . . ."

Antony's military prowess fails to defeat the soldiers of Caesar but his magnanimity disarms Enobarbus, who fights no more.

Mr. Val Gielgud claims that the BBC is keeping Shakespeare alive on a nation-wide basis. Does he exaggerate? Do we want broadcast Shakespeare?

Or do we agree with Mr. Hitchcock, the film producer, that Shakespeare to the majority "spells considerable gloom," "is as dull as ditchwater" also "too pregnant with classroom memories," in fact "anathema"? And that this Elizabethan playwright, whose characters are "lifeless figures out of a schoolbook" needs to be "livened" and "humanized" by film producers who have "sugar-coated the bitter pill of literature" by the introduction of "the finer essences of romance and vigour—of vitality and pace"?

Thus spake Mr. Hitchcock in his broadcast championship of Hollywood, where they have "condescended to make Shakespeare palatable." (Final explosion of Mr. Granville Barker!)

One more Shakespearean note: a radio consolation for coronation week will be *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

tages? What is one's duty to the State?

6. Is the use of force necessary to large-scale administration? Can we have an industrial society without coercion?

7. What are the differences or similarities between

(a) Overt forms of violence, such as war, martial law, revolutionary strikes, police action &c., and

(b) Covert forms of violence, such as the exercise of power through property, gradual lowering of the standard of living, and perpetuation of social conditions that are admittedly inequitable?

8. To what extent are we participants in, or responsible for covert violence in one form or another?

The final subject in the programme is *Can one practise pacifism in one's daily life?* and a list of points for consideration will appear in next week's PEACE NEWS. (Previous subjects, in the order of appearance, have been: *Is Christianity emphasizing pacifism correctly?* and *Is pacifism a workable proposition?*)

Recent Publications

A NEW RELIGION?

THE THIRD MORALITY. Gerald Heard. Cassell. 10s. 6d.

Reviewed by Stephen Hobhouse

THE P.P.U. is indeed fortunate to have in one of its most eloquent spokesmen a thinker who is equipped, as few men are today, to present an illuminating survey of the whole complicated field of contemporary science and to make clear to us both the kind of universe of which we form parts and the kind of conduct which will best enable us to live in harmony with that universe.

This Gerald Heard has done in his last two books (for his *Third Morality* is really a continuation of his *Source*

NOW FOR THE HUNDRED!

SINCE we published a fortnight ago a further list of libraries in which PEACE NEWS is displayed, we have been advised of its entry into libraries at:—

Cardiff
Shoreditch
Wallington County School
for Boys
Willesden
Woolwich (5)

This brings the total up to 58.

of *Civilization*, published by Cape in 1935). They contain some stiff reading and his view of traditional Christianity will commend itself to but few Christians.

PURPOSE IN LIFE

But it is an inspiration to know that we have scientific confirmation that "the human heart, when it seeks the good of others and attempts to apprehend with detachment, is following the path and purpose of the universe," the basis of which is purely mental.

We are shown how such a world-view can set men free from fear and greed and make consistent pacifism the only reasonable course.

The last chapters contain much admirable advice for the training of both mind and body, so that we can gain strength by meditation and other exercises, to stand firm against the prevailing spirit of mistrust and discord, and may sing our song, so to speak, in time with his music of the spheres, until others are caught up by the power of its harmony.

Derelict Lives

THE ROAD TO WIGAN PIER. George Orwell. Gollancz. 10s. 6d.

A return of "prosperity" due to war preparations is only too likely to quieten some people's consciences with regard to the evils of unemployment in the areas which have been left derelict by industrial capitalism.

The first half of this book describes conditions of life (or rather of bare existence) which a really civilized nation would not tolerate. The second half is devoted to the author's personal views on the reason for middle class

people remaining outside the ranks of socialism.

Undoubtedly, however, the value of the book lies in the descriptive matter in the first section, which ought to be read by as many people as possible.

REVIEWS IN BRIEF

BRITISH MEDICAL AID IN SPAIN. *News Chronicle* (for the Spanish Medical Aid Committee, 24 New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1). 3d.

In the first half of this excellent pamphlet there is an account of 24 hours with the Medical Aid Unit at Grañen written by a woman journalist. It then goes on to state the names of the members of the unit, and to give the story of the formation of the unit and its organization.

A letter from the Archbishop of York wishing the unit God speed is followed by an appeal for money. It is indicated that £1 can do more than we realize. It will keep two operating tables, with doctors, nurses, orderlies, and attendants, at work for a whole hour at Grañen.

WHAT ABOUT SPAIN? Jessie Wallace Hughan. War Resisters League, 171 West 12th Street, New York City. 5c.

Although Jessie Hughan condemns the war in Spain, she feels that we have no right to do so without offering some substitute for armed resistance.

Some of the substitutes she suggests are agitation, education, organization, on the political and economic fields, the complete renunciation of armed violence, the peaceful general strike, and the scarcely tapped resources of non-cooperation.

ROAD TO RUIN

THE following quotation from Bertha von Suttner's book, *Lay Down Your Arms*, written nearly fifty years ago, is strikingly apposite in the light of current history in Italy.

The words are uttered by a soldier in reply to a politician who is explaining a new compulsory service bill. "I hope this bill will not be passed. It is impossible to foresee where it will lead us, every power would seek to surpass the others in armed force, and it would end not in armies but in armed nations."

"And the more men there were called to the colours, the greater would be the cost of maintaining and arming them; so that, without coming to blows, the nations would end in ruin. What would happen if, after having exhausted the supply of men, it occurred to a nation to form regiments of women or battalions of children?"

"The other nations would have to imitate it. And then where would we halt in our (search for) methods of destruction? What a savage, what a blind, headlong rush to the abyss!"

What Can I Do For Peace?

READ
"YOUTH CAN STOP WAR"
By Arthur H. Bird
Foreword by Dr. D. Soper, M.A.
1s. 2d.

Post free from Author
LIME TREE GROVE, THORNE, DONCASTER

HOW EMPLOYERS HELP RECRUITING

Longer Holidays as A "Bribe"

From Our Own Correspondents

THE Minister for War, having failed to obtain enough recruits for the Regular Army, has hit upon a novel plan.

He has appealed to employers to encourage employees to join the Territorials. Posters, with the old slogan "Defend your inheritance" are, of course, to be seen everywhere.

Concessions are being made to all the men who join, and one well-known Birmingham brewery firm is offering the old bait to employees. In the event of their going to the next war, the firm is prepared to keep open their jobs at the old rate of pay, or at an increased rate which might have come into operation.

Already two firms—Lucas, the well-known lamp manufacturers, and Mitchells & Butlers, Birmingham's biggest brewers—are forming anti-aircraft platoons.

Those of us who remember the last war have not forgotten that the Territorials, "for home defence," soon found themselves overseas and in the thick of the fray.

PROMOTION HINT

Another instance is to be found in a London wholesale textile warehouse, where a Territorial Army notice has been posted up. This poster asks employees to join the Territorial Army, suggesting that compulsory methods may be used if others fail.

Offering a three weeks "holiday" bribe for recruits the notice goes on to state that the "discipline and experience gained will stand any individual in good

(Continued foot of next column)

Forum For Youth

PROBLEMS OF A PACIFIST IN THESE DAYS OF "PEACE"

By JOY SCOTT

I WRITE as one who is altogether bewildered and lost in the troublous sea of contemporary politics, but who is, in theory at least, a pacifist. The contemplation of modern Europe leaves me with a feeling of utter hopelessness, and I have come to the conclusion that all one can do as an individual is to develop one's own individual life as a pacifist as far as one possibly can.

To me the nationalistic spirit seems the greatest curse of the world. Patriotism no doubt has its virtues, but these are easily outweighed by its evils.

So I believe that one should in some measure cut oneself adrift from one's own nation. Officially there is no such thing as a world State as yet, but there is no reason why one should not imagine oneself to be a member of such a State. It happens that

(Continued from column 1)

stead when it comes to a question of promotion in his own business."

This method of bribing employees must be stopped and the protest made by the London Wholesale Textile branch of the Shop Assistants' Union must be supported by all who have the interests of peace and social justice at heart. British workers can help to abolish warfare by united effort only.

I am British by birth, but why, if I consider nationalism a bad thing, should I think of myself purely as a Britisher?

I realize that, for some years at any rate, I personally can have no direct influence on the course of politics. I have not even got a vote yet. The only thing therefore that remains to me is to concentrate upon my own individual life, as I am living it now, in peace time.

UNITY OF MANKIND

The basis of pacifism is the belief that violence should never be used as a means to gain any end whatsoever, and this belief can be brought into practice in the commonest things of everyday life.

But unfortunately one does not live one's life alone. One is constantly coming into contact with other people who continually give rise to situations which must be tackled by the pacifist.

The foundation of a pacifist's relations with other people is the conception of the fundamental unity of all mankind, the belief that, in spite of all surface differences, we are in truth far more like our neighbours than we think. The highest aim of life is that of completely breaking down the barriers that cut us off from our fellow human beings.

By most, however, such an ideal will never be attained in this life. Some of the barriers are insuperable. All that one can do is to keep oneself continually aware of the fundamental unity which one knows exists. Thus kindness will take the place of hate in one's heart. Thus too will one learn to despise no one, but to sympathize with all. But it is a task for giants.

THREE PROBLEMS

In my every-day life I find that there are three situations which are continually taxing my strength to the full.

The first situation is that which arises when either oneself or someone dear to one is criticized unkindly, insulted or treated unfairly. The natural impulse, at least I speak for myself, is to return the insult, by furious denial and retaliation, or by a sly hit-back.

The pacifist must face things deliberately, attempt to find the truth and acknowledge it, or, if he can find no truth, keep silent. He must, too, remove the sting from his mind by meditating on the unity of mankind, by looking through his self-made enemy to that something which is the same as himself.

The second situation is that which arises when one is "robbed," when people attempt to take one's possessions from one. This may be robbery of purely physical things.

(Continued foot of next column)

WAR RESISTANCE IN A FILM

Hollywood Wants To Be Impartial

SUGGESTED courses of action for those who oppose war was suggested in a propaganda film, *Hell Unlimited*, recently shown at an exhibition arranged by the Left Book Club in Manchester.

The film was made by two Glasgow amateurs, Norman McLaren and Helen Biggar.

They suggest that if letters to Members of Parliament have no result, then the people should demonstrate. If this also has no effect, mass resistance by means of strike action is suggested.

WAR IN SPAIN

A correspondent in the United States has sent a copy of a Texas newspaper in which the attitude of Hollywood toward the war in Spain is discussed. It is pointed out that despite the drama of the struggle, events have so far only provided material for news reels.

The reason for this unnatural shyness is, according to the article, due to the fact that the implications of the war reach into practically every other country, thus making it extremely difficult for the necessary hero or villain to be placed on either side.

"The only 'out' Hollywood can see," it is stated, "is a formula in which all central characters are Americans, stranded somewhere in Spain by the war's outbreak and interested only in getting safely away without a machine gun dusting their coat-tails."

"At any rate, the method will be employed by Walter Wanger in a production for United Artists, titled *Castles in Spain*."

(Continued from column 3)

But it seems to happen more frequently, and present greater difficulties, in subtle ways. The robbery which takes place when one is superseded in popularity, or in the affections of a person one loves, is hard to bear indeed. However, the pacifist's course is clear—it is to give freely, and if possible to give more.

The third situation is that which arises when an attempt is made to force one to do, or think, something against one's will.

Personally I do not find that I have to meet it so very often, since I live in a more or less free country, and my parents are broadminded and tolerant. Therefore I do not worry about it, although I realize that it is an important crux of the pacifist creed.

When actual physical force is not used against one, the course is calm, but blank refusal. When physical violence is employed a situation comparable to that of war comes into being, and once war has been declared the pacifist is, under modern conditions, practically helpless.

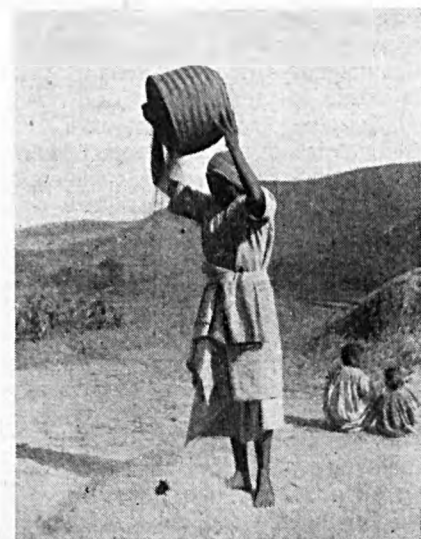
WHO BEARS THE "BURDEN OF EMPIRE"?

£1,500,000,000 for rearmament apparently represents the extent to which the citizens of Great Britain must bear the "burden of Empire."

It is not generally realized, however, what burdens those who "benefit" by British rule have to bear.

The family incomes of the natives of Kenya in cash average less than £5 a year. Out of this they have to pay a poll tax which amounts to 28s. for the average African household.

This means that a quarter of their income is paid out in direct taxation. The settlers, on the other hand, who think the Africans pay too little and get too much, pay income tax at rates varying from one fifth to one



tenth of what income tax payers have to pay in England.

These natives, who are now to have less spent on them, already pay in direct taxation a far larger proportion of their incomes than the poorer classes pay anywhere outside Africa.

PACIFISTS MUST KNOW THE GALLOWS is an expression of fear, hatred and despair—the raw material of war. Every inroad on cruelty strengthens mass resistance to the mass brutalities which threaten. Pacifists should therefore actively support abolition of the death penalty. Particulars and free literature can be had from The Secretary, National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

"Dear Sir....."

Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written on one side of the paper only. Owing to pressure on space we reserve the right to publish extracts from letters.

Correspondents must send their names and addresses, though not necessarily for publication.

"THEIR Name Liveth for Ever" Too

IS the Exeter War Memorial the only one on which the pacifists of 1914-1918 are represented?

I enclose a photograph of the Exeter memorial showing the very fine bronze



statue of a conscientious objector in chains.

The city of Exeter deserves the thanks of every P.P.U. member for its tribute to the pacifists who suffered in the Great War.

BOB GRAY.

Buckland Newton,
Dorchester, Dorset.

TRUE NEUTRALITY

In an earlier letter I suggested that, by solving ugly situations, for instance ending by the new tactics of non-violence crime in a town, pacifists might find themselves in demand by government authorities not only for local work but for national and international problems.

So essentially different, however, is pacifist philosophy from that used by governmental agencies, that pacifists probably would have to work independently of the authorities, as they would be thought by the criminal classes to be merely a peculiarly nauseous kind of informer or "stool-pigeon."

Only pacifists can put an end to crime and war because only the pacifist philosophy provides ground, in the unity of mankind, for a true neutrality in the struggles between groups of people.

W. P. RAWLINSON.

1311 Austin Street,
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.

OFFER TO GROUPS

I wonder if I can help any of the groups in London during the six weeks I expect to be in England before travelling to Canada and the U.S.A.?

I find lantern lectures a great help to peace propaganda and have a selection of slides, real photographs, taken in the late war. These were given to me by the Hon. Robert Semple, Minister of Works in the New Zealand Cabinet.

As I am not taking the subject of "war" in my future lectures I will be pleased to pass them on to someone who would use them. Write me at 24 Ashlone Road, London, S.W., or call, and I will have them ready.

(Mrs.) **MARY DRURY.**
London, S.W.

WANTED: A PEACE PARTY —IN PARLIAMENT—

WE think the time has come when an increasing number of us (P.P.U. members and others) would welcome the opportunity of giving active support to a (political) Peace Party in Parliament: a Peace Party, the policy of which would be based on P.P.U. ideals.

Is it possible that the Parliamentary Peace Group already in existence might form the nucleus of such a Party?

If so, an account of the Pacifist Convention called by this group in Manchester for April 24, should, we suggest, be published in full and circulated freely, in order to encourage the support of such an active and definite political proposition.

CONAN & NELLIE I. SHAW.

York House, 53 St. John's Road,
Orpington, Kent.

PANDIT NEHRU AND NON-VIOLENCE

I read with much interest the report in this week's issue of the interview of twenty Christians with Pandit Nehru, the President of the Congress Party in India, for although Nehru does not accept the point of view of the complete pacifist, his use of the technique of non-violence is of the greatest importance to all pacifists.

The victory of the Congress Party in the recent elections shows the opposition of the Indian people to the new constitution and to British rule in India. We govern India by force, making use of repressive methods only equalled by Nazi Germany, and all pacifists should oppose such violent methods of government to the same extent that they oppose violence between nations.

GEOFFREY LE LACHEUR.
5 Redington Gardens,
London, N.W.3.

Note.—The interview made it clear, by evasions if not by direct statements, that Nehru does not intend to use non-violence as a technique.—Ed.

BEWARE OF DIVISION

A government which knows the danger of a divided nation will not fail to apply the same principle against a formidable movement which threatens it. Absolutists and alternative service men of 1916-1918 will remember.

The division taken generally is between the religious and the political. In the case of the religious pacifist who is sufficiently advanced in his thinking and his knowledge to condemn the capitalist system this difficulty is overcome.

But too often among the religious peace people are found those who condone an iniquitous state of society to uphold which war is a necessity.

It is urgently necessary that the Christians, in their hope that the socialists will "see the light," and the secularists, in their hope that the religious "fans" will "get over it," bear in mind that a large-hearted tolerance is all important for organized pacifism, or they may find a war-time government's "divide and conquer" policy playing havoc in their ranks.

"FIVE TIMES COURT-
MARTIALLED."
Doncaster.

THAT FIRST STEP

May I endorse all that David A. Peat has said in his recent letter, and suggest a possible means whereby the money for such a project could be obtained.

I believe that in Germany, certain days have been set apart from time to time on which people are desired to have one meal only, and that the money saved has been given to help supply the necessities of life to the less fortunate members of the State. Could not something similar be done in this country by all peace-lovers?

The money thus saved could be used to purchase food in this country so that it could not be argued that tradespeople were being robbed to assist others.

There is one point in which I would differ from Mr. Peat, namely that I would suggest that the proceeds should be divided equally between our own needy and destitute, and those of Germany. If people are not sympathetic to those of their own nation who are in need, how can they be truly sympathetic to those of other nations in a similar position?

S. L. M. SAUNDERS.

13 Derwent Crescent,
Whetstone, N.20.

PROFIT IN ARMS

In the recent debate on the arms programme in the House, Mr. N. Chamberlain is reported to have said in regard to profiteering

"that the Government were doing their utmost to prevent exploitation of the country's needs, but it was not reasonable to say that there ought to be no profits."

Surely that is the crux of the whole problem! If there were no profits to be made, there would very soon be no armaments, as is so ably shown in Mr. Fenner Brockway's cleverly satirical play *The Devil's Business*.

If the Government really wish us to believe that they are piling up armaments only for the country's "safety," let them insist that every penny of profit from armament production be used for helping the distressed areas, and to creating a nation that is 100 per cent fit, its citizens decently housed, and self-respecting because they are properly employed.

E.A.
London, N.6.

EUROPE OVER AFRICA

THE recent press reports confirming Italian atrocities in Abyssinia will not help matters unless we acknowledge our guilt in having perpetrated crimes just as bad and evince a desire to make amends. **We are hypocrites if we condemn Italy for doing in East Africa what we have done in South Africa and India.**

Have we so soon forgotten the Amritsar massacre, the fierce conflicts in Ireland, the treatment of subject races, and our awful record in Rhodesia?

(Miss) **L. R. MORGAN.**
66 Bateman Road,
Chingford, E.4.

THIS MOTORIST PROTESTED

Your correspondent, Frank H. Sillitoe, of Bristol, has expressed a widely felt grievance.

It may interest other readers as well to know that I for one wrote immediately to Sir Stenson Cooke protesting most strongly against the use of A.A. subscribers' money to help in inducing their employees to join a so-called "defence force" by giving them an extra fortnight's salary and holiday.

I have sent in my resignation on this account, and intimated my intention to send my usual subscription to help the cause of peace instead.

CECIL H. COX.
37 Kingwood Chase,
Leigh-on-Sea.

UNITY SUMMED UP

Lord Ponsonby's fine article in PEACE NEWS of March 6 has finally crystallized my judgment upon the P.P.U. badge. "War, We Say No" does sum up in a terse way the one point upon which we are all united.

I have never met casually in the streets any one wearing the badge. I have not always worn it myself. But henceforth I shall, and I hope every member who can will do so.

(Mrs.) **MILLICENT PRICE.**
129 Foley Road,
Streetly, Near Birmingham.

OUR DEMAND

I have been given some numbers of your PEACE NEWS and have read them with keen interest. Why don't all of us, in this awful vital need, join hands and become one? Scrap the little differences of opinion and policy—of how it's to be done—leaving it to experts.

If we all joined together and with one voice told governments that we won't have war we should be noticed—we should be powerful enough to enforce our demand.

BERNARD SLEIGH.
40 Charlotte Road,
Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Late Letters

COLONIES UNDER MANDATE?

IN his "Reflections," Lord Ponsonby, in your number for March 6, urges us to be practical.

May I bring before you Professor Bentwich's plan as he sets it forth in a letter to the *Manchester Guardian*?

He first states in detail the principles of the Mandates: (a) native well-being; (b) open door to trade; (c) prohibition of use of territory as a military base and recruiting ground for armed forces. Then he advises that the self-governing nations bring into the mandate system their colonies.

Will Lord Ponsonby then give us his "reflection" on this proposal?

(Rev.) W. M. TEAPE.
Bournemouth.

QUEER!

Does it not seem incongruous that the finest X-ray apparatus in the world should be used for research in WOOLWICH ARSENAL?

M. YEATES.

569 Sidcup Road,
Motttingham, S.E.9.

WAR STILL ON

I get PEACE NEWS every week, and with it glowing accounts of meetings and the formation of groups. I live in a district where there is none. The nearest is about twelve miles away and usually the meetings are at so late an hour that it is impossible to go.

Most people seem to think the last war finished in 1918; to me it only took another form. It still rages in the market place, men over-reaching their fellows and then passing on the gains to the Government in income tax—and then the guns.

H. PARKER.

Norley Grove, Norley, Warrington.

GOLDEN RULE

It seems to me pacifism naturally proceeds from an acceptance of the doctrine "Do as you would be done by."

While it is admittedly difficult to love one's enemies, do we not all of us every day avoid giving and taking offence?

I refuse to believe the man I don't know is different from the man I do know or less worthy of consideration and respect, and I refuse to have "enemies" or to be an "enemy" at the bidding of any man.

This is, I submit, both reasonable and Christian.

JOHN PURSAILL.

20 Arcade, Northampton.

CHARTER FOR YOUTH

A discussion on the proposals for a "Charter for Youth," submitted by the Youth Charter Group, will be the most important business of the Third National Assembly of Youth Organizations to be held in Manchester from April 23 to 25, particulars of which are obtainable from the British Youth Peace Assembly, 114 Grosvenor Road, London, S.W.1.

The six headings under which the reports of the Youth Charter Group have been prepared are:—youth in industry, unemployment, juvenile delinquency, malnutrition, health and sport, education, and youth in agriculture.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN BRIEF

AUSTRIA

Owing to sympathies with the Nazis the Minister for Public Security has been relieved of his appointment, according to a Vienna report dated March 21, and the post has been assumed by the Chancellor himself.

BELGIUM

The King of the Belgians arrived in London on March 22, and was expected to have discussions with British politicians on his country's desire to have her neutrality guaranteed on a non-reciprocal basis.

FRANCE

A half-day strike took place in Paris on March 18 as a sequel to riots at Clichy on March 16. It was reported that at the Paris exhibition French workers gave the clenched fist salute to Germans working on the German Pavilion—the only place where work was not stopped—and the latter answered with friendly smiles.

GERMANY

The Cabinet accepted on March 19, with certain reservations, the Reich Budget for 1937, details of which remain secret.

An Encyclical read in German Catholic churches on March 21 referred to breaches of the Reich Concordat, and (according to *The Times*) "asserted the Church's determination to fight if need be."

GREAT BRITAIN

It was announced on March 18 that

recruits for the Territorial Army obtained during February showed an increase of over 100 percent compared with February, 1935, and was a record for any February since 1921.

GREECE

An Athens correspondent, writing in the *Manchester Guardian* of March 22, declared that the dictatorship of General Metaxas was proving "costly," steady rises in the cost of living having been recorded.

INDIA

Confidence in those elected by the provincial electorates was expressed by the Viceroy in a speech on March 15.

A resolution permitting acceptance of offices in "provinces where Congress commands a majority in the Legislature, provided that Ministerships shall not be accepted unless the leader of the Congress Party in the Legislature is satisfied and able to state publicly that the Governor will not use his special powers of interference or set aside the advice of Ministers in regard to their constitutional activities" was carried by the All-India Congress Committee on March 18.

A demand for the withdrawal of the new Constitution in favour of one devised by a Constituent Assembly was made in a resolution passed by the Congress National Convention on March 20.

ITALY

In a speech made in Tripoli on March 18, Signor Mussolini expressed Italy's intention to "ensure to the

LOGIC

THE war in Spain (in which one side is attempting to "defend" the right of a democratically elected Government to rule, while the other is claiming to "defend" Christianity) moved the Archbishop of York to declare at Leeds on Sunday that it sometimes seemed that the springs of humanity were being dried up by continual pressure of horror upon horror, and we were in danger of becoming case-hardened.

There was a real risk in times like these, he said, of a great backward step on the part of mankind.

But the Archbishop himself has stated that indulgence in inflicting just such a horror as this—though, to be sure, he called it "force"—can be a Christian duty, presumably when it is for "defence"—as in Spain.

So the latest form of the time-honoured phrase "Peace with honour" is apparently "Peace through horror."

Moslem populations of Libya peace, justice, well-being, and respect of the laws of the Prophet," and her wish to "show her sympathy to Islam and to the Moslems of the whole world."

LONDON NAVAL TREATY

A "semi-official" intimation of the inacceptability to Japan of a limitation of naval guns to 14 inches was reported on March 17, and was stated to have come as a shock to official quarters in London.

PALESTINE

A statement drawing the British Government's attention to continuing lawlessness in Palestine was issued by the Jewish Agency Executive on March 15.

It was reported on March 22 that "firm measures" to deal with the situation were being taken by the Government.

It is not expected that the report of the Royal Commission will be ready before April.

U.S.A.

An appeal to Mr. Roosevelt to call a naval limitation conference was made by Mr. Hamilton Fish, a Republican, during a debate in the House of Representatives on March 17. Mr. Fish pointed out that the British Government had restored its finances by repudiating its debt to the U.S.A.

Tension between strikers and police in Detroit was reported from New York on March 21. The president of the Automobile (Workers') Union has threatened to call a strike throughout the motor-car industry (except in plants of General Motors Corporation) "unless the brutal eviction of sit-down strikers and ruthless clubbing of workers by the Detroit police is stopped immediately."

WESTERN PACT

It was reported from Berlin on March 15 that the dominating German principle concerning the Western Pact proposals was that it must be concerned exclusively with the West, and isolated completely from France's Eastern European commitments and from the universality of the League.

Parliament

Army Recruiting Still A Problem

WAR OFFICE PLANS TO POPULARIZE SERVICES

AN admission that recruiting for the Regular Army continued to be an obstinate problem was made by Mr. Duff Cooper during the debate on the Army Estimates in the House of Commons last week.

He said that in this, the only non-conscript country in Europe, the Army must be made popular, profitable, and pleasant to well-educated men.

The first essential was to make it a good career, and he was able to announce the offer of two more training centres by the Ministry of Labour, which in course of time would take over the existing Army centres and be able to give vocational training to all men who wanted it after leaving the Army.

Among other concessions was the complete abolition of all stoppages from pay hitherto enforced to provide certain articles of equipment.

NAVY ESTIMATES

In answer to a question in a debate on the Report stage of the Navy Estimates in the House of Commons last week, Sir Samuel Hoare denied that there was anything sinister behind the decision that the Navy should be brought up to date, or that the Government was starting a race in armaments.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Information, reported on another page, has been received by PEACE

NEWS from a correspondent that certain employers have been using coercive measures, among others, to compel employees to join the Territorial Army.

Mr. Duff Cooper replying to a question on this subject, said that he was strongly opposed to methods of this type, and hoped it was not being done. If anything like intimidation was ever brought to his notice he would do his best to prevent it.

EMPIRE TRADE

Discussing the subject of Empire Trade, Lord Stonehaven, in the House of Lords last week, gave the interesting information that while we now took from the Dominions, excluding India, 25 percent of our total imports, the Dominions took from us 30 percent of our total exports.

The House was brought to the reality of the situation by Lord Lothian who said what was really needed was that the Government should discuss with the Empire whether the present tendency in economic nationalism was not the most fatal thing in the world, and whether the policy of bilateral treaties was not worse than a return to the most-favoured nation policy.

It was this Government which was the principal obstacle today in the reduction of tariff barriers, which most of the world recognized to be essential.

Though all space is not filled until Tuesday morning, correspondents are reminded that copy should reach the editorial office not later than MONDAY

Peace News

March 27, 1937

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YE KING'S STONE PRESS, 20a Lower Teddington Road, Kingston-on-Thames. If you are interested in peace read *MOLOCH* by Winifred Carter, 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d. by post).

"Most affecting. It depicts the agony of war in the home and in the heart of a mother." *Daily Sketch*.

HEALTH TREATMENT

MISS J. D. WALLINGTON, health practitioner, osteopath, bonesetter, treats all conditions of ill-health by natural methods; particularly successful with nerve and digestive cases. Consultations by appointment. 1 Ashley Place, S.W.1 (near Victoria Station). Victoria 0131. Residential telephone, Weald (Kent) 53.

PEACE PLEDGE UNION PUBLICATIONS

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There are also a number of free leaflets obtainable, together with the above, from
96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

(Telephone: REGENT 2843-4)

ILLUMINATED ADDRESSES

ALBUMS, SCROLLS, &c., from 1 guinea to 100 guineas. Battley Brothers Ltd., Printers and Publishers, The Queensgate Press, Clapham Park, S.W.4.

MEETINGS

FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION (London Union). A Fellowship Hour, for communion with God and each other, led by Rev. Alan Balding, is being held the third Monday in each month from 6.30 to 7.30 p.m., at 165 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

NORTH LONDON SOCIAL CREDIT ASSOCIATION meets at Allison Hall, Green Lanes (near "Salisbury" bus and tram stop) on Tuesday, 30th instant, at 8 p.m. Free admittance and free discussion.

POSTERS

PEACE POSTERS for the times. Samples on application to the Secretary, Northern Friends' Peace Board, Spring Bank, Rawdon, near Leeds.

EIGHTEEN NEW POSTERS (words only) now available. Double crown size 2d., and some also crown size 1d. List of captions on application. P.P.U., 96 Regent Street, W.1.

POSTER BOARDS for poster parades and pamphlet sellers: double crown 2s. each. Crown (ladies' size) 1s. each. Obtainable from Peace Pledge Union, 96 Regent Street, London, W.1.

WHERE TO STAY

DELIGHTFUL 16th CENTURY FARMHOUSE in Sussex is open as a guest-house to those desiring restful and health-giving holidays. Suitable for conferences or retreats. Profits are used to provide holidays for London slum-dwellers.

Write to Mrs. J. A. Corke, Micklepage Farm, Nuthurst, near Horsham, Sussex.

"C.O.s" EXAMINED

A "military tribunal" was a novel feature recently tried by **Bradford** members of the Peace Pledge Union as a change from the usual type of debate.

Three applicants for exemption appeared before the "tribunal" and were questioned as to their reasons for refusing service, but only one, Mrs. M. South, was granted exemption. She refused to make munitions, "believing that, without shot, even if the other side have munitions, the killing will cease all the sooner."

BEATING BRUTE FORCE

Mr. Roger Wilson, of the P.P.U., was the speaker at a recent meeting of the **Hainault** (Essex) Residents' Welfare Association, when he declared that "brute force will be beaten every time by passive resistance, and you would find that any invading army would be disorganized and defeated by such a method of defence."

War as an instrument for the attainment of idealistic aims was exposed at a meeting held in **Manchester** last week, at which Laurence Housman and Bertrand Russell spoke on "Why I am a pacifist."

Laurence Housman said that he wanted to make a direct challenge to bishops. How was it that at the Lambeth Conference some 10 or 12 years ago they made a unanimous pronouncement that war was "incompatible with the mind of Christ," and now declared that pacifists whose attitude aims at the compatibility to which war was a contradiction are heretics?

"IMAGINATIVE MERCY"

An eloquent appeal for "imaginative mercy" not only toward Germans and Italians, but also toward the unemployed of South Wales was made by George M. L. Davies at **Bangor**, one of a series of meetings in North Wales, which were to have been addressed by Dr. Herbert Gray.

"You won't get peace without pooling resources, and without leaving your revolver out of it while sharing goods," said Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier at **Blackheath** last week.

"In the event," he added, "of pacifists gaining a majority in the Commons they should not disarm completely at once because of the danger of a revolt of reactionaries. Fascism will not come in a black shirt but in a pink hunting coat."

Following an inaugural meeting held at **Jordans**, Bucks, a new group has been formed embracing the surrounding towns and villages, Beaconsfield, Seer Green, Chalfont St. Peter, and Chalfont St. Giles.

The next meeting was called for April 15, and anyone living in the area who is interested should write to the secretary, Corner Cottage, Jordans Village.

WHERE TO STAY

DERBYSHIRE HILLS.—Vegetarian Food Reform Guest House. Alt. 600ft. For happy holiday or restful recuperation. Increased accommodation. Central heating throughout; h. and c. water in all bedrooms. Central for conferences.—A. & K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, near Matlock. Tel.: Ambergate 44. Station, Ambergate (L.M.S.)

ONLY PRACTICAL POLICY

From Our Own Correspondents

A MOTION in favour of collective "security" was heavily defeated at a debate held at King's College, London, last week, when Canon Morris said that the theory of collective "security" had no more relation to reality than the new recruiting pamphlet, which only mentioned games, tours, and chefs instead of war, had to the Army.

Pacifism, he said, was the only practical policy, because no government dare fight if it knew it could not rely on men to use the methods of violence.

Canon Morris was opposed by Mr. Figgures of the British Universities League of Nations Societies.

Pacifism again "scored" when a motion declaring that "complete disarmament" should be the policy of the British Government was carried by 27 votes to 18 at Goldsmith's College Debating Society last Thursday.

A BETTER WAY

A meeting of Newton-in-Makerfield Christian Pacifist Group last week was addressed by Joseph L. Pennington, who examined Lord Cecil's criticism. "What will pacifists do to meet aggressors?"

He pointed out that aggression was not a sudden event, but a policy. Christian pacifists proclaimed another way.

Pacifists must wage a "holy" war of reconciliation between those two opposing ideologies of fascism and communism which threatened to disintegrate even national sovereignty in the turmoil of war, and must consider whether the existence of the colonial parts of our empire was consistent with peace.

Diary of the Week

Tues. 7.30 p.m. Moot Hall, Colchester; public meeting to be addressed by Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard, J. Middleton Murry, and Vera Brittain; P.P.U.

8 p.m. King's Weigh House, club entrance, Thomas Street (opposite Selfridge's), London, W.1; group leaders' meeting; P.P.U.

Wed. 7.30 p.m. Rechabite Hall, Crane Street, Salisbury; Harold Bing on "Pacifism and civil war"; P.P.U.

8.15 p.m. Forester's Hall, Kilburn High Road; public meeting to be addressed by Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier and Vera Brittain; P.P.U., Hampstead group.

Fri. 7.30 p.m. Guild Hall, Plymouth; meeting to be addressed by Canon S. D. Morris, Lord Ponsonby, Mary Gamble, and Dr. H. R. L. Sheppard; P.P.U.

Sun. 3 p.m. Methodist Hall, Gunnersbury Lane, Acton Hill; John Barclay at Acton Hill Men's Fire-side.

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